

## House Republican Press Release

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### **Kalinowski Praises Veterans Committee's Bill to Assist Military Families**



State Rep. Raymond C. Kalinowski, R-100<sup>th</sup>, Middletown, Middlefield, Durham, today praised legislation approved by the legislature's new Veterans Affairs Committee to provide help to members of the armed forces and their families.

Rep. Kalinowski, ranking member of the newly formed Veterans Affairs Committee, said, "We developed a number of benefits for families of armed forces members. It is historic in nature. It is comprehensive in its coverage, and is a terrific gesture of support for people who are putting their lives on the line for freedom."

The bill, HB 6626, was the first legislation to be voted out of the Veterans Affairs committee created this year by the legislative leadership.

Under the measure, children of armed forces members killed in the Iraq or Afghanistan military operations would receive state aid. Life insurance premiums would be reimbursed for members of the military. Immediate family members would receive relief payments for essential personal and household goods or services.

All taxpayers also would have the opportunity to check off \$5.00 of their state income tax refunds to be deposited in a state Military Relief Fund, for use to assist needy military families.

The measure, if approved by the legislature and signed by the governor, would appropriate \$2 million to cover these military relief efforts.

Rep. Kalinowski serves the 100<sup>th</sup> Assembly District of Middletown, Middlefield and Durham in the state House of Representatives.